



LANTERN

IN THIS ISSUE

MYSTERIOUS STONES: page 2 ... LOCAL CURIOSITIES: page 4 ... ALDEBY UFOs: page 4

19th CENTURY 'SPOOKERY': page 7 ... BIORHYTHMS & PSI: page 8

BOOK REVIEWS: page 9 ... NEWS ROUNDUP: page 10

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introduction

BSIG has at last published the booklet 'Haunted Lowestoft', mentioned many issues of Lantern ago! It gives a run-down of about 40 ghosts in Lowestoft and neighbourhood, plus illustrations. Available from the address below price 40p inc. P & P.

It seems that the 'notice board' idea mentioned in this column last issue has been something of a success, judging by the response, so here we go with more reviews, wants etc: KEN CLARKE would be grateful to receive any information on the siting, design etc of pre-Norman Conquest crosses in greater East Anglia, at the following address: 46 Tavistock Road, Cambridge • The WESSEX UFO RECORD exists to report UFO, Fortean and Psychical phenomena in Wessex, published quarterly the annual subscription is £1.50; 35p for single copies: from Sally Pike, 14 St. Johns Road, Warminster, Wilts • MYSTIC FORUM gives a sane, balanced approach to occultism. Quarterly journal includes reports of meetings, letters, adverts and new books, free to members. Full membership £2.50 per annum; annual sub to journal only £1.40 post free, singles copies 30p + 10p post. Meetings alternate wednesday evenings, 7.30pm at St. Margarets Hotel, 107 St. Margarets Road, East Twickenham. Dairy of speakers from secretary, 114 Kings Road, Kingston, Surrey (01.549 2601) • DAVID MAYOR is trying to get access to electroencephalo or cardiographs/grams to use in some dowsing experiments. Any offers/ideas to Barhatch Farm, Cranleigh, Surrey • MEGALITHIC VISIONS ANTIQUARIAN PAPERS by Nigel Pennick now have available the following publications: Nr.1; 'RUNIC' a comprehensive discourse on the runic form of writing. Nr.2; 'CAERDROLA' a complete guide to the history and purpose of ancient stone, turf and pavement mazes. 20 illustrations. Nr.3; 'HOLY SEPULCHRE' The history and mystic purpose of the round churches associated with the Knights Templar. Nr.5; 'LEYS AND ZODIACS' an introduction to Geomantic research in Britain, with relevant examples. Nr.4 'EUROPEAN METROLOGY' a guide to the multiple measures used in Britain and Europe before the metric system. All available from FENRIS-WOLF PUBLICATIONS, 142 Pheasant Rise, Bar Hill, Cambs; 20p each inc. P & P • WATSUP JOURNAL is the quarterly publication of the WESSEX ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF UNEXPLAINED PHENOMENA. Membership is £1 per year, members under 18 and OAP's 50p. Single copies of journal 15 plus P & P from Nick Maloret, 180 Locksway Road, Milton, Portsmouth • Just published, PRINCIPLES OF PREHISTORIC SACRED GEOGRAPHY, translations of a paper originally read by Dr. J. Heinsch before the International Congress of Geography, Amsterdam, 1938. This is the first English translation of this rare work; from Zodiac House Publications, 7 Hugon Road, Fulham, London SW6; 75p plus P & P. (this is the paper referred to by Nigel Pennick in his article 'Suffolk Landscape Geometry in Lantern 9) • THE LEY HUNTER Nr.65 contains articles on Leys in Somerset & Oldham...the Long Man of Wilmington and pictish symbol stones...info on East Anglian dragons...an article by M. Burgess (of BSIG) on the many problems and discrepancies in Ley hunting. TLH is bi-monthly, annual sub £1.50, from Paul Screeton, 5 Egton Drive, Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, Cleveland •

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mysterious stones

PART THREE

M.W. Burgess

Since my last ramblings on this subject in the Winter, 1974 issue of Lantern, I have managed to find quite a few more instances of mysterious stones in East Anglia; some from books or articles and some from personal investigation. I'll begin with ones that I have mentioned before and of which I now have more details.

You may recall the OX-FOOT STONE well that once laid in a meadow belonging to Ox-foot Stone Farm, South Lopham, Norfolk, although it has now been removed to the garden. Mr. H.P. Styles, who once owned the farm, has given a different version of the legend to the one that I previously related (see Lantern 7, Autumn 1974:Ed). It runs thus; Once upon a time there was a cow that provided milk for the people of Lopham. One evening an inhabitant, who had drunk too deeply of the Norfolk nut-brown ale, went down to the meadow to milk the cow, taking with him a seive in mistake for a pail. He went on milking her until, not only had he stripped her dry, but until he actually drew blood. This made the poor animal stamp with pain so hard that the imprint of its foot was left on a flat stone on which it had been standing The print of the hoof is still said to be very distinct, and the stone is either sandstone or conglomerate.

Speaking of conglomerates, I've been down to South Suffolk to have a look at some of the boulders in the 'Puddingstone Trail', namely those at Chelsworth, Drakestone Green and Kersey. There is one against the buttress of CHELSWORTH CHURCH, but I have my doubts as to whether or not it is actually a conglomerate (puddingstone). That at DRAKESTONE GREEN most definitely is, being a huge lump of brown rock embedded with pebbles in a heavy 'pudding-like' natural cement. At KERSEY there are said to be three stones, but one of them, in the priory, is inaccessible. The one at the north end of the main street (illustrated above) is a good example, and seems to be a favourite gathering place for the locals to sit and chat, not to mention a good tourist attraction. There is also one down by the ford which crosses the street, but this is granite, not conglomerate.



PUDDINGSTONE - KERSEY.

I've finally found the CHEDISTON STONE! It is much larger than I imagined, being about 6' x 5' x 5' with another, smaller lump nearby. It stands in the garden of Rockstone Lodge, Chediston, Suffolk, quite close to the road. It's north side is remarkably stratified, almost like sandstone, which could be due to the wearing action of water. A local archaeologist thinks that it is a glacial erratic, so the unusual formation could have been caused by glacial melt. He also says that some boys once found a similar rock in Chediston Hall Wood, but he has never seen it himself and the woods have now been flattened. He too has heard the tale that St. Chedd may have preached from the stone, and thus given the village its name.



THE
CHEDISTON
STONE.

At one time in the village of HEMSBY, Norfolk, were to be found the bases of 4 crosses, being either sanctuary crosses or markers for pilgrims on their way to Walsingham. Two are still extant and can be seen in the churchyard, but the other two have vanished. As luck would have it though, just inside the gate of the churchyard is an actual boulder; a 2' chunk of granite firmly embedded into the bank.

Somewhere near Norwich Cathedral there is, or was a 'DRAGON'S STONE', connected in some way with the 'Snap' dragon festival once carried out in Norwich on St. George's Day.

On the main road between EYE and IPSWICH in Suffolk "somewhere around the Stonehams", near what was once a turnpike gate, there lies a round, flat-topped stone, some 3 feet across. It is said that the stone would rise and turn round when the gate was banged shut. A PLAGUE STONE, which was once on the highway near BROME, Suffolk, has now been removed to the grounds of Brome Hall, this, like many others, is reputed to turn round when the clock strikes mid-night.

Now just a quick run-down on a few other pointsthe circles of stones at GORLESTON, Norfolk, used to be known as the 'Gull Stones'..... The 'Witches Stone' in Westleton churchyard, Suffolk. has now disappeared The stone outside Pond Farm near BARNBY, Suffolk, is actually an old mounting-block The boulder at MERTON, Norfolk, which when lifted will cause the drowning of the world, actually lies (or at least it did) in a marl pit near the village, it is a lump of Necomian sandstone 12' x 5', buried to a depth of 5 feet.

Earlier this summer another BSIG member and I went on a cycling tour of North and North-east Norfolk. We were truly astounded by the number of unusual boulders which we found, there are far too many for me to describe them all here. There was one in a lane at WINTERTON-ON-SEA, near a crossroads at the Market Place. This is



a magnificent example of a granite stone, but it has been painted black. We talked to some locals (well, Dutch inhabitants) and they said The Stone, as they called it, had always been in the village, but that it had been moved several times. The old fishermen loved to sit on it and spin yarns.

Outside a 'pub called The Swan at INGHAM we found 3 more stones, all in a line against the wall outside the building; and along the B1151, towards STALHAM, we found 2 more, again granite painted black. To cut a long story short we also found stones at DILHAM, HONING, MILL BRIGGATE, KELLING, SALTHOUSE and BEESTON REGIS. These were

not tiny little lumps no bigger than a football, but quite massive boulders of granite usually placed in strategic positions such as crossroads etc. Exactly the reason for this is unsure, but such foreign bodies in a landscape which has little or no native rock must have evoked a sense of awe in the local populace in days gone by. The use of these stones may have evolved over long centuries, from pagan altar, to 'Druid' monolith, to way-marker, to market stone, to boundary stone, to milestonethroughout our history they have been utilised as focal points for the community, for worship or meeting, or for purely utilitarian purposes. All the while they have stood there they have been gathering legends and folk-tales about them.

For instance I mentioned in Lantern 7 the 2 stones outside a barn at Sheringham Norfolk, which are said to run across the road when they hear the cock crow. Well, on our journey to Norfolk, we happened to find 2 granite stones outside a demolished barn near the town. Aha! thought we, these are they! Unfortunately, about ten yards away we found another one! The ruined barn was in the grounds of a farmhouse which in turn stands in the grounds of Sheringham Priory. Now, you may recall the tale of 'The Ghost and the Stone' in Lantern 4. We found that this farmhouse was in fact the home of that Mr. Reynolds, upon whose grave the stone was placed. In the garden of the farmhouse we discovered another boulder, very similar to the one in the churchyard, and a local woman, who had known the farmer, and his wife, told us that the two were a pair that once stood by the pathway to the priory. It really is surprising what you find out with a bit of nosing around!

To conclude, I shall expound further on the DRUID'S STONE in the churchyard of St. Mary's, Bungay, Suffolk. (see Lantern 7). Apparently the 'ritual' game played around it could be used either for answering questions or for summoning the Devil. To receive the appropriate result all one had to do was either knock upon the stone 12 times or dance around it the same number of times. But Ethel Mann, in her book 'Old Bungay' says; "Some think it a Ley or Direction stone...."

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LOCAL CURIOSITIES

A rather mysterious picture appeared in a recent issue of the East Anglian Daily Times. It is of a bearded and crowned figure of a man carved in wood which ornaments the Six Bells 'pub in Braintree, Essex. It is said to have been pulled out of the River Blackwater in the 16th century, and there is a local superstition that it goes back to the river for a drink at midnight.

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On the top of the round tower of the ruined church at Whitlingham in Norfolk are 4 stone figures said to represent the 4 evangelists. At midnight these figures are said to walk round the edge of the tower and meet, shake hands and greet each other and then to resume their positions. Apparently this can only be seen by un-married people.

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In the parish of Dilham, Norfolk, is a large, deep hole, known locally as 'Seagar-ma-hole'. Traditionally it is said to be the 'Fairies Bay'. A church which once stood nearby is said to have sunk into it many years ago.

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UFO^S

OVER

aldeby

A
B.S.I.G.
REPORT

ALDEBY is a small parish on the Norfolk/Suffolk border a mile or so north east of the thriving market town of Beccles. There is little of note here except a much-restored Norman church and the scant remains of a small Benedictine Priory dating back to the early 12th century. The village of Aldeby itself stands atop a gentle declivity over looking the river Waveney and its extensive marshes in the south.

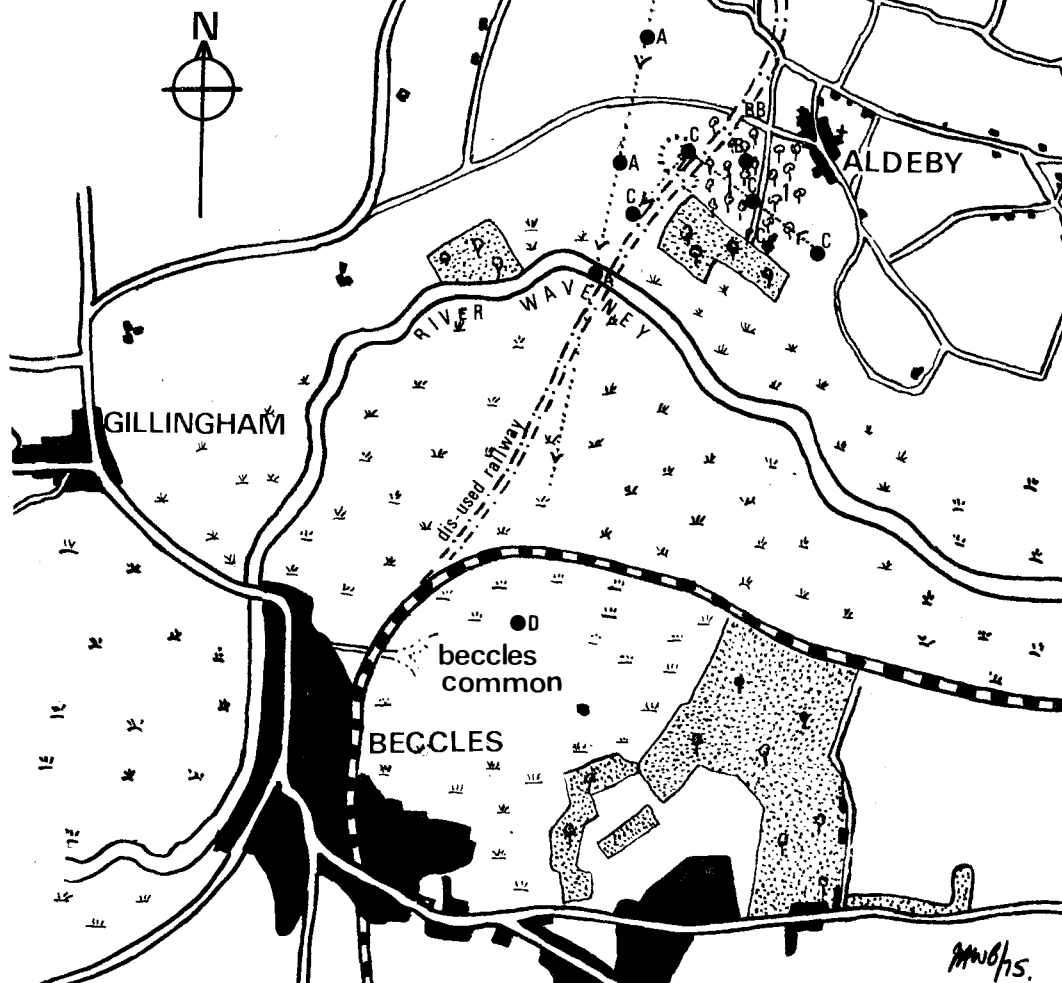
Quite why such a small, quiet village should be the centre of reported UFO activity is unknown, however over the past few years there has been a number of interesting and well-attested reports from this area.

The first of these dates back to 1964. In the november of that year (exact date uncertain), at around 6.45pm, Mr. Wright was cycling along Church Lane, Aldeby, when he saw a fast-spinning, featureless disc the same colour as the moon but 1½ times as big. It was well over the horizon in the direction of Haddiscoe (another village 2½ miles north of Aldeby). The object was moving quite slowly, straight and level, from the direction of Haddiscoe over Aldeby. Mr. Wright watched the object for about five minutes until it slowly disappeared over a nearby sand quarry. The object was completely noiseless and the witness described it as looking like a "large tin tray" or a "big catherine wheel."

During the Autumn of 1967, the year of the big UFO 'flap', John Rand was walking from Beccles to his home at Aldeby. It was late at night, around 11pm, and as he approached the dis-used railway line he heard a "heavy vibrating noise". At first he thought it was a train on the Beccles/Lowestoft line across the river, but as he glanced round he saw a huge saucer-shaped object about 200 yards away hovering over an orchard. The object was dark with a bulge at the bottom and a dome on the top, around the dome were about a dozen slit-like lights which illuminated the apple trees

The Beccles/Aldeby area

SCALE, 4cms/1mile



- 1: ORCHARDS. AA: MR. WRIGHT'S POSITION. A●----->: TRACK OF UFO SEEN BY MR. WRIGHT.
 2: SAND QUARRY. BB: MR. RAND'S POSITION. B●----->: LOCATION OF UFO SEEN BY MR. RAND.
 CC: TINA WARD'S POSITION. C●----->: TRACK OF UFO SEEN BY TINA.
 ●D: UFO ON BECCLES COMMON.

below. The witness compared the size of the object to that of a large hovercraft. He watched it for a half minute or so and then the vibrating noise wound-up to a high-pitched screech and, in Mr. Rand's own words, the object "just whisked off." Needless to say the whole experience left him very shaken and somewhat frightened. He was particularly struck by the noise the object made, a very low, steady, vibrating hum, the likes of which he has never heard before or since.

In August, 1972, another Aldeby man was sitting outside his house enjoying the waning daylight. At about 9.30pm he saw an object flying overhead from the direction of Great Yarmouth in the north-east to Beccles. He described it as "telegraph pole shaped" with about 10 to 15 white lights strung evenly along its length. The witness estimated that the object was very large and very high, and he is convinced that it was not a conventional aircraft of any sort. It was moving quite fast and completely silently. He watched it for about a minute or so and then it suddenly disappeared.

Sometime during February/March, 1973 (the witness is uncertain of the exact date) at around 9pm, 10 year old Tina Ward of Aldeby saw a bright, luminous disc fly over her home at Hall Farm. Tina, who has since moved, said that the object flew noiselessly over some orchards, hovered for about a minute over a nearby sand quarry and then flew off swiftly on a track at right angles to its original course.

These reports represent the 'hard-core' of reports from Aldeby itself however there are others which come from the same Beccles/Aldeby area, and also some where, although the witnesses were not in the area, they observed object in the sky in the direction

of Aldeby. Some of these reports have appeared in Lantern before but it seems worth repeating them again here.

The first dates right back to 1955. At the beginning of July that year, a Beccles woman and her four year old son saw a silver, disc-shaped object, moving soundlessly and at a terrific speed over their home in Beccles. (see 'UFO Report' in Lantern 10).

The Beccles and Bungay Journal, January 26, 1963, carried the following report: "Returning from a call to Southwold on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. Alfred Crisp, a Beccles ambulance driver, and the attendant nurse, Mr. Charles Bennet, were mystified by an object in the sky in the Beccles direction. Mr. Crisp said they were travelling from Henstead Church towards Hulver at about 5 o'clock when in the sky ahead, which was still quite bright through a bright sunset, he noticed 'a long dark object suspended.' Mr. Bennet saw it for the first time when they got to Hulver. On the high ground of the disused Ellough Airfield, Mr. Crisp pulled up for a minute so that they could get a better look.

They wondered at first whether it was a man suspended from a parachute. However, there was no sign of any parachute. Then they thought it might be a long kite which had broken away, but decided against such an idea because of the rate at which the object shot off in a southerly direction. 'I have never seen anything like it before', said Mr. Crisp, 'There was no light attached to it. I have always been sceptical about reports of strange things in the sky, but I wonder if anyone else saw this object.'

On January 3rd, 1974, some boys playing on Beccles common ran home and told their mother of a cigar-shaped object which flew over them. It made a noise which, according to the boys, gave them a headache. (Beccles Common is about 2 miles south of the spot where Mr. Rand saw the object which also made a Low humming noise.)

Three days later a Lowestoft family were visiting Ashby Church (4 mile north-east of Aldeby) when they saw a 'metallic-gold' coloured object hanging in the sky to the south-east. They observed it for a few minutes and then, to their amazement, it simply disappeared. Ten minutes later they saw a huge 'cigar-shaped' object appear from behind a cloud in the south-west, it moved swiftly and silently on a south-east course. This object, which was dark-grey in colour with 'bright ends', also suddenly disappeared. Again ten minutes or so elapsed, then this same object (or a very similar one) reappeared in the south-east. It travelled back towards the cloud where it had first appeared, and disappeared again into the cloud. (see 'UFO Report' Lantern 5 for full details.)

These then are the details of the UFOs over Aldeby. Unfortunately space does not permit a more detailed break-down of the sightings; but there are striking similarities in the reports: lights, humming noises, discs. It also appears that a number of the UFOs seem to like orchards and sand-quarries for some reason. Quite what all this adds up to is very uncertain and wide open to conjecture, but one thing is sure; over the last ten years or so some very strange things have been seen in the skies over Aldeby.....

Editors note: BSIG would like to thank Bryan Jeffery of the Cambridge University UFO Research Group who carried out thorough investigations into a number of these reports and who has made the info freely available for publication.



D O N T M I S S
 WINTER EDITION OF
LANTERN
 AVAILABLE in DECEMBER



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 for membership details



19th Century Spookery

If the following report, gleaned from the Norwich Mercury, Wednesday January 25th, 1860, is to be believed, then an incredible haunting occurred near South Town Station at Great Yarmouth that month!

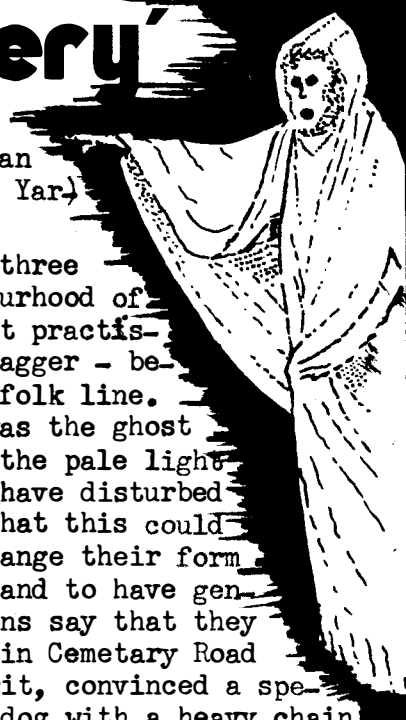
Vague rumours have circulated during the last two or three weeks with reference to the freaks of a ghost in the neighbourhood of Southtown. The unsettled spirit was first seen about midnight practising its unearthly gambols - after the fashion of Macbeth's dagger - behind the new railway station at the terminus of the East Suffolk line. Some persons, well versed in historic law, thought that it was the ghost of that old Cromwellian - Mrs Bendysh - who had returned in the pale light of moonbeams, to protest against the many innovations which have disturbed the old byeways of her lifetime. It was soon found however that this could not be, unless it is the custom of disembodied spirits to change their form and outline. The shape of the ghost was said to be visible, and to have generally a Will o' the Wisp appearance; and three or four persons say that they could identify it as the same ghost which frightened people in Cemetery Road about this time last year. A near sight of the troubled spirit, convinced a spectator one evening that it was in the form of a large black dog with a heavy chain attached to its neck as though it had broken away from some subterranean kennel. The most positive identification however was made in the engine house of the East Suffolk Railway, which is situated in the marshes, some distance to the westward of the station; and there it assumed the form of a white dog equal in size to a polar bear and one or two horrified witnesses saw it leap and run over and around certain trucks and engines, situated in the dimness of the engine-house. The cattle in the marshes were said to have been frightened by another monster, and a scheme was organised, in a mundane spirit, with a view to shoot it, but the dogs' instinct kept him away thereafter.

His ghostship was next seen as a dark shadow, flitting to and fro in the marshes. Persons of courage advanced upon him and found him to be a humble shepherd watching 'his flocks by night.' This was not at all satisfactory, for the intangible and restless sprite again appeared in the dead of night to the unspeakable terror of his observer. It became clear that something must be done to 'lay' this stranger from another world, whose object, it was concluded, could not be holy. Plans were consequently laid, and watchers watched, with a result we will relate.

On Friday morning last, it was determined to be ready for the wary visitor. It appears that an engine cleaner named Macdonald, was the next victim against which the ghost directed its evil intentions, as is alleged not only by McDonald himself, but also a brother cleaner, who had on several occasions detected some invisible power pushing at the engine-house door whenever he tried to open it in the presence of McDonald. Last Friday, Mrs. McDonald and three male friends undertook the duty of watching, whilst McDonald pursued his cleaning avocations. But alas! either owing to refreshments of which they had partaken, or to the witchery influenced by the ghost, the watchers fell into deep slumber, from which they were aroused by the groans and cries of McDonald, who alleged, when they awoke, that he had been severely beaten by the ghost, who was dressed in a tight-fitting cow skin, with horns on, and which was accompanied by a friend in a white raiment. The ghost however, had fled when the watchers awoke, and McDonald went home suffering from the blows that he had received; but on being examined on the following morning by Mr. C. Palmer, surgeon, no marks of violence were visible, which might lead to a supposition that the chastisement had been inflicted in a manner peculiar to ghost. A few nights previously, the same ghosts appeared to McDonald one carrying in one hand a bleeding heart, at which it pointed with the forefinger of the other hand, at the same time scowling fiercely upon the trembling engine cleaner.

On Saturday, the police took the matter up, and are pursuing their enquiries. So there the affair at present rests and, in all probability, their ghostships will endeavour to keep out of the reach of the constable's bulls-eye, the glare of which is generally disliked by nocturnal wanderers.' Needless to say, BSIG has decided not to investigate this one, unless it re-occurs!

at Gt. Yarmouth



<< Biorhythms & Psi >>

----- Ron Hill -----

Recently, together with some other BSIG members, I have been carrying out some experiments to examine a theory of mine that there exists a definite relationship between parapsychological (Psi) phenomena and the biorhythmic cycles in man.

There are three main 'biorhythmic' cycles in our lives: INTELLECTUAL, EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL. Each cycle starts when we are born and continues right through our lives. Each cycle is made up of a number of days of 'activity', a number of days of 'inactivity' and, most important, the changeover or 'critical' days. These cycles or rhythms are as follows;

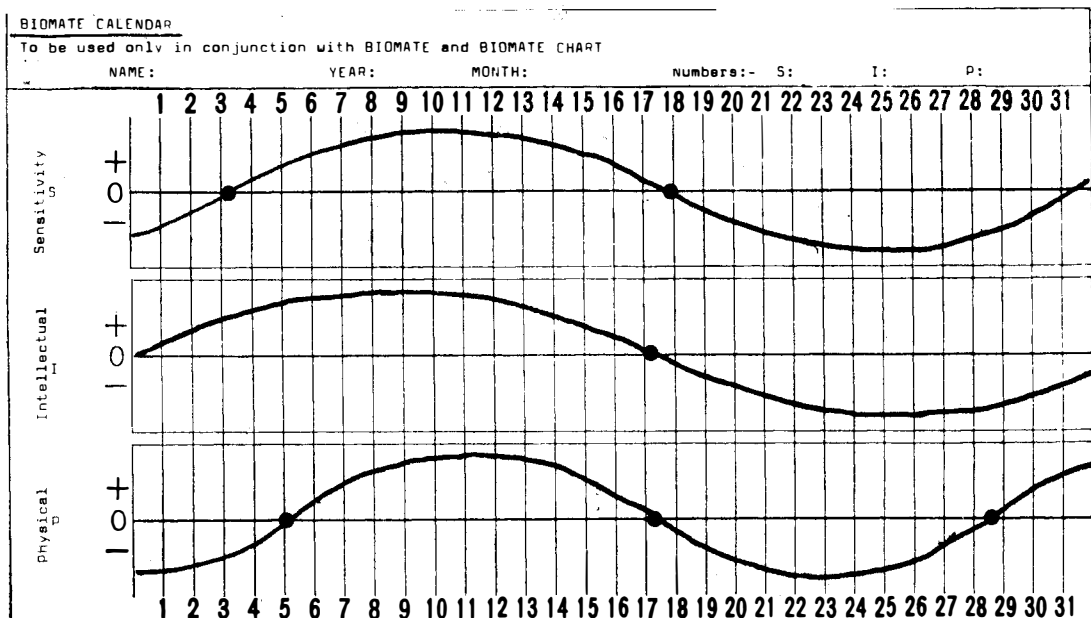
SENSITIVITY: (emotional), this is a 28 day cycle of the cells controlling the nervous system.

INTELLECTUAL: A 33 day cycle of the cells controlling the brain.

PHYSICAL: A 23 day cycle of the cells controlling the physical system.

The effect of these rhythms is to alter our moods, cheerfulness, perception, power of reasoning, strength, confidence and drive etc.

The CRITICAL days when the cells change over from the active to the regenerative periods, and vice-versa, are the days when accidents are most likely to occur. A Japanese Air Police report states that out of 72 aeroplane accidents 67% occurred on the pilot's critical days.



CRITICAL DAYS: •

The above diagram shows a typical set of Biorhythmic curves covering one month, and it can be seen that during this time the person to whom they relate had 'critical' days in his PHYSICAL cycle on the 5th, 17th and 28th/29th of the month; a 'critical' day in his INTELLECTUAL cycle on the 17th; and 'critical' days in his SENSITIVE cycle on the 3rd and 18th. The 17th of the month is therefore of particular interest as the person is critical in both Physical and Intellectual cycles on this day and is just entering a critical in his Sensitivity cycle on the 18th. If our supposition is correct, then we should expect to find enhanced Psi abilities around this date.

Having found to my own satisfaction that Biorhythms did in fact affect my disposition and abilities from day to day, the feeling grew in my mind that there should also be some effect upon the subconscious part of the mind. Whilst this effect would not normally be perceptible, it ought to be possible to reveal its presence by some means or the other. The question was how could this be done without laboratory facilities, nor indeed quite knowing what was being looked for?

The answer presented itself quite by accident however, Whilst I was trying out some experiments involving ESP which had been suggested in a book which I had recently obtained ('How to Develop Your ESP Power' by Jane Roberts). These experiments in-

volved writing down the number 'I', then putting down alongside it whatever thoughts came into my mind; this could be a sentence, phrase or even just a word, but without questioning what had been written or elaborating on it. This was continued until at least 5 'predictions' had been listed. The procedure was carried out every day at about the same time. Each day the 'predictions' for the previous day or days are checked and compared with events that actually happened. It is surprising how often there is a connection between what had been written down and what had subsequently happened. Another experiment was simply to record any strong 'hunches' or thoughts which came into the head if they seemed unrelated to whatever was being done at the time, and then to check-up constantly to find out if there were any relationships between the 'hunches' and what actually took place later.

I had been entering in a diary the dates upon which my own 'critical' biorhythmic days occurred - I drive more cautiously on these days - and used the same diary to note down the 'predictions' and 'hunches' mentioned above. When looking through the diary one day I noticed that the times when the 'predictions' corresponded with actual happenings generally coincided with my critical days!

In order to verify or disprove this finding, as the case might be, I asked my secretary every morning to think of a series of numbers between 1 and 10, one at a time, whilst I recorded the number which I felt she had chosen each time. This was carried out over a period of some weeks. The results were significant enough to bear out the theory, and in one case when my Physical and Sensitive cycles were both at critical on the same day, seven consecutive numbers were guessed correctly and I also guessed correctly three colours in three goes. This seemed so incredible as I have never shown the slightest ESP abilities before (apart from knowing when it's dinner time!) that I was tempted into making a wild comment that had come into my head, not for one moment feeling that it would be likely, suggested that my secretary would find a letter from her sister waiting for her when she arrived home that day. Much to my surprise this turned out to be true!

At a meeting of the BSIG on April 25 last, further impromptu tests were carried out using Zener cards, and here again scores, well above the level of chance, were obtained by one member whose Intellectual and Physical cycles were both critical on that day.....(To be concluded in the next edition of Lantern.)

book reviews

W.J.Chambers

Many East Anglians will doubtless be connected with, or have an interest in, London, and such will welcome the paperback edition of Peter Underwood's book

'HAUNTED LONDON' (Fontana, 60p). The book contains all the old classic stories, which must have entailed a good deal of searching through books, some obscure, to assemble, and there is a good selection of newer tales. A spectre which was previously unknown to me is that of Samuel Pepys, who haunts a house in Buckingham Street. A curious feature is the number of haunted theatres. There does not seem to be a major one which is without its ghost. East Anglian ghosts include Anne Boleyn, who turns up at Lambeth Palace and the Tower of London, Nelson at Somerset House, and Dick Turpin on Hampstead Heath.

The book contains a good number of interesting historical facts, including that Westminster Abbey, consecrated in 604, was built by Sebert, King of the East Saxons. It is difficult to see however, how the wounded from the Battle of Hastings were treated at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, which was not founded until 1123.

* * * * *

Many books on UFO's suffer from a preoccupation with theory. The authors seem so keen on giving their ideas about sightings that it is often difficult to make out what really happened. For this reason I was, on going through my books recently, glad to come across a little pamphlet 'FLYING SAUCERS OVER THE WEST' by A.W.Bearne (Paignton 1968). On October 30th, 1950, Mr. Bearne saw from his garden a UFO which he describes at first as a funnel-shaped mass of flames; it then turned into a ball of fire, and just as it was going out of sight he saw emerge from the forward portion a huge disc.

This experience interested him so much that for a period of twelve years he collected UFO stories from his friends and from the local and national press, including cases from Ipswich and Cambridge. This evidence he set down in the plainest terms and with a minimum of comment. So treated it is very impressive and although

the booklet is only 24 pages long, it is one of the most convincing arguments for the actual existence of UFO's which I have read.

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news round-up

FORMATION OF UFO INVESTIGATION NETWORK.

During the last month a 3 way link-up has been established between BUFORA, (British UFO Research Association), CUUFORG (Cambridge UFO Research Group) and the UFO Research Section of BSIG. BSIG will act as the 'clearing house' for all reports received from the Suffolk/Cambridgeshire Area. Copies of all the reports will be made and kept on file at Lowestoft and the originals will be forwarded to the BUFORA Research Department.

COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE.

The establishment of this investigation network will mean that, for the first time, there will be a comprehensive coverage of the Suffolk/Cambridgeshire area (and part of south Norfolk), with investigators all over the area. It is hoped in the near future to contact other UFO Research Groups in the area and invite them to join the network, so that, eventually, every local UFO report will find its way to one central point so that overall study and evaluation can be carried out to the full. Should any organisation, or individual, wish to partake

in this set-up, they are invited to write to the editor who will forward their letter onto the UFO Research Section.

NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS

GHOSTS AT FAKENHAM.

The Psychical Research Section of BSIG is currently investigating reports of a 'haunting' at Pudding Norton, near Fakenham, Norfolk. Recently the flat of Mr. and Mrs. Able, and the adjoining flat belonging to Mrs. G. Remington, have been the scene of strange happenings. On the night of 12 August last, Mrs. Able awoke in the early hours of the morning to see a female figure in a white dress at the foot of her bed. Next day she learned that her neighbour, Mrs. Remington, had seen a similar figure.

HAIR PULLED.

The next night Mrs. Able was so frightened of seeing the apparition again, that she slept with the light on. Even then she said there was a strange sense of 'evil' in the flat. She told her mother about what had happened, and the two of them spent the following night (Thursday) together in the haunted bedroom. At about 6am, Mrs. Able's mother saw the apparition of a man walk from

the window to the door. Then, she said, her hair stood on end, it felt, she said, as if someone was pulling it. At the same time, a crucifix on a chain round her neck, was pulled tight as if it was trying to strangle her. Later, the next day, the apparition of the man seen during the night, was seen again, from outside the flat, looking out of a bedroom window.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

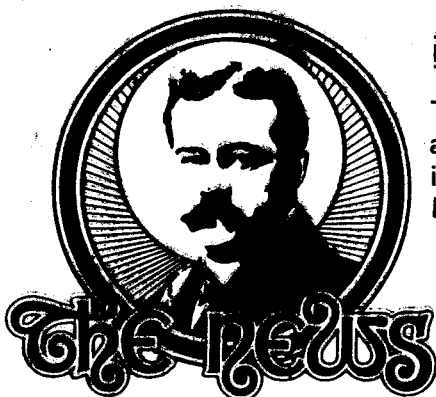
The family were so frightened that they contacted a local clergyman who has offered prayers in the flat. At the moment this seems to have 'laid' the ghost. However, the Psychical Research Section is still carrying out investigations, and it seems likely, according to reports, that similar phenomena is still occurring in nearby flats. Mrs. Able is still not convinced that she is completely rid of her unbidden guests.

Apparently the flats are built on the site of a chapel built by WW2, Italian P.O.W's. BSIG is at the moment checking on this.

(EDITORS NOTE)

It is hoped to carry a full report of this investigation and haunting in the Winter edition of Lantern.

NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS.



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